

Partners in Community Development Fiji

'Working in partnership to empower communities to make informed decisions about their own development'

RA KAKA NEWSLETTER



December 2010

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Government seeks PCDF's advice on Green Innovation Project

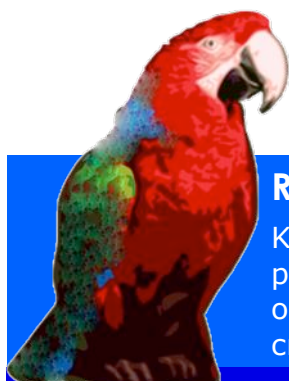
The Department Of Lands and Survey has consulted the expertise of PCDF on initiating an environmental community project within the greater Suva area.

Following a successful presentation to the executives of the ministry on October 25th, PCDF will be implementing a variety of environmentally friendly activities on Nukulau Island. These will include the composting of toilets, eco tracks, native tree nurseries, chemical free gardens and vegetable plots, as well as intercropping and agro forestry.

Since Nukulau Island is managed by the ministry, the project is expected to serve a dual purpose of generating income in the foreseeable future.

Project implementation is expected to run throughout the next year and will be supported by the departments of Environment, Forestry and Agriculture.

Following PCDF's suggestions, The Department of Lands and Survey has adopted the name 'Green Innovations Project' and has expressed great interest in continuing partnership on other initiatives.



RA KAKA

Kaka is Kadavu for parrot. Kadavu Province is the home of the beautiful shining parrot, '*prosopeia splendens*', an endemic species. The Kaka is a messenger not only on land but also on sea - it serves as a communicator for God's living creatures.



Fish warden training brings communities together

NRM and MORDI team up to deliver Fish Warden training with focus on illegal fishery for members of three different project sites.

More than 50 participants, including Fish wardens from Moturiki and Serua, came together to discuss the preservation of Fish products and treatment of illegal fishermen at the *Fish Wardens and Fish Processing Workshop* in Kubulau, Bua from the 24th-27th of August.

Fisheries Officers from Lautoka and Savusavu and Inspector Josaia Naimasi from Navua Police Station also attended to discuss the roles and responsibilities of Fish Wardens with emphasis on the new crime degree and handling of illegal fishery.

It was the first time that Fish Wardens from Lomaiviti and Serua travelled to Vanua Levu to share their experiences of protecting fishing grounds.

The Fish handling and processing component of the workshop was highly praised for its simple explanation of formulating the brine solution, which preserves fish for 8-12 hours. This was an important subject, as most participants generate the largest part of their income from selling seafood.

The workshop was the first of its kind and showcases the success of two PCDF programmes, NRM and MORDI, working in partnership to enhance community development.

Desert refrigerators promise food security

PCDF adopts African concept to increase food and water preservation by up to 20 days.

A female potter from Sigatoka has been contracted to create a Nigerian 'zeer pot' for Batiki and Moturiki - a simple and effective tool to preserve crops.

Two clay pots, separated by an insulating layer of sand and water, reduce the temperature of the inner pot by 5-20°C, thereby preserving food for 20 days longer. Each pot can contain 12 kg of vegetables and costs less than US\$2 to produce.

Preservation is a key issue for food security in Fiji as it reduces the wastage of crops. The zeer maintains the vitamin and nutrient content of vegetables and keeps flies off the food.

Several of the pots will be provided to the Batiki and Moturiki schools and then be introduced to the pottery community of Serua for income-generating projects.



A traditional Zeer pot © Practical Action

PCDF joins forces at Hibiscus Festival

From 23rd-27th August, PCDF embarked on a weeklong environmental awareness campaign at Hibiscus Festival, which generated substantial national media coverage.

Awareness material was in great demand, particularly with high school teachers from outer islands of Vanua Levu and Lomaiviti, students from Maritime Provinces and members of the Lau Provincial Meeting. **See you next year!**



NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (NRM)



©dinesh_valke at Flickr

Dilo nuts (*Calophyllum inophyllum*)

LATEST NEWS

Dilo resource a budding business

PCDF has secured the interest of a local company to buy Batiki's abundant supply of dilo nuts and oil for its production.

The community will be trained in Dilo Management before collaboration commences.



©Olga Nohra at Flickr

A native tree seedling

Community forestry saves native tree species

PCDF forms partnership with local tree nursery to save native tree populations from extinction.

From October onwards, a native tree nursery will supply PCDF project sites with seedlings for distribution to their communities.

The partnership follows increasing demand for native tree seedlings that the Department of Forests cannot sufficiently cater for.

The seedlings will be planted within the village grounds and woodlands to safeguard and rehabilitate the land and remaining forests.

The project provides a good indication of the public awareness that has been built up with such communities on the important functions of forest ecosystems.

INTERNATIONAL MEDIA

- 2003** BBC TV – Coral Gardens
- 2004** BBC Radio – Coral Gardens
- 2008** BBC TV – The Coral Gardner
- 2008** ABC – Sustainable Tourism

Fiji Botanicals John Bennette has already expressed a keen interest in providing Dilo Management and Oil Extraction training for the community of Batiki, which is scheduled for next year.

Fruit and vegetable seedlings for Batiki and Moturiki

Both communities have put forward a request for fruit and vegetable seedlings, which will be ready for distribution by PCDF early next year. The general lack of supply was worsened by the prolonged dry

Newly appointed Fish Wardens in Batiki

Thirteen new Fish wardens have been appointed in Batiki District, following successful awareness training on the Fisheries Act and Regulations conducted by NRM and the Fisheries Department.

The Training took place from October 25th -29th and familiarised the Batiki community with endangered and threatened marine species after the CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species) Act. Other issues discussed were the restocking of juvenile giant clam and the breeding of "Eucheuma" (lumi) as potential income generating activities.





PCDF and Fisheries Office promote Marine Awareness

The Fisheries Office in Lautoka has requested that PCDF assists the promotion of community based fisheries management to 85 participants from 4 villages at the **Vitogo Marine Awareness Campaign** from 1st -3rd November.

The session provided case studies from PCDF project sites to illustrate the different aspects of fisheries management. Etonia Dokonivalu, a fish warden from Serua, was employed to share his experiences and efforts of protecting the marine resources of Yanuca Island. Dokonivalu also spoke of the income generating opportunities that follow his efforts.

At the end of the session, participants compiled an action plan on how to address declining fisheries and replenishment efforts in the district of Vitogo.

OTHER NEWS

PCDF in the National Youth Committee

We have been working closely with the Ministry of Youth to organise skills training for the NRM project sites, as youth and women are the target groups of our projects. For this reason, PCDF has now joined the Youth Assembly of Fiji Islands (YAFI), which voices concerns and challenges for youths in the communities. Empowerment and life skills programmes for Batiki and Moturiki youth are planned for February 2011, which will be organised in partnership with the Department of Youth and Sport.

Funding secured for volunteer in Cuvu

PCDF has successfully applied to SPC for funding to enable volunteer Pua Karikaritu to continue his NRM work in Cuvu, Nadronga. He has been raising awareness of the importance of local marine resources through the use of poetry and innovative media.

CAMPAIGNS and WORKSHOPS

- NRM raised environmental awareness at **Peace Corps Resource Fair** in October.
- From 16th-18th November, Matelita, Watisoni and Ilisoni presented at a EED organised workshop in Papua New Guinea which focused on **Climate Change in PNG and the South Pacific**.
- ED presented at the **Critical Health Systems and Communicable Disease Control and Prevention in Emergencies** workshops at the Sheraton, Fiji.
- Iliapi Tuwai participated in a NDMO organised workshop reviewing the **National Disaster Plan**.
- ED presented on Community Role in **Climate Change Adaptation** Workshop at USP. Setefano Nauqe also attended.
- Iliapi presented at the Central Division Head meetings at the Commissioner's office, Nausori
- ED presented a 2 day workshop in the Namosi Province Mata ni Tikina.
- Talica Anderson participated in a weeklong **Renewable energy** workshop in Samoa.

TRAINING AND MEETING VENUE FOR HIRE

Located only footsteps from town, on Denison Road, the **Vunimaqo Deck** is the ideal training and meeting venue. It can accommodate up to 50 delegates, equipment for meeting and catering are available upon request. For more information please contact the Office Manager on **Tel.: 330 0392**, or send an email to: **admin@pcdf.org.fj**



UPCOMING EVENTS



- Water project for Keteira Village on Moala Island
- Austin Bowen Kerby will send a draft of the final report for the **Corals for Conservation Project**
- Final **Moturiki Environment Committee** on December 10th where we will distribute trays of native tree seedlings for Navuti and Nasauvuki villages

AWARDS

- **Gold for International Green Apple Award (Environmental Best Practice) 2004.**
- Cuvu Site, Nadroga, awarded status of 'Model Site for Coral Reef Conservation' by the United Nations Environment Program (ICRAN) 2002.
- **Cuvu Site, one of 3 (along with WWF's Ono and USP's Verata) in Fiji's award by the UN Sustainable Development programme, Johannesburg 2003.**
- Best Annual report, South Pacific Stock Exchange – Not-for-profit section. 2003.
- **International Green Apple Award (Soil Conservation) Winner 2006.**
- First Runner Up for Annual Report Competition in 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 by the South Pacific Stock Exchange.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

- PCDF 2011 financial year began on 1st October 2010.
- PCDF books are ready for the 2010 annual audit by KPMG
- EED audit for January-June 2010 completed by KPMG
- Youth Champs 4 Mental Health January to June Report submitted to Tides Foundation for Disability Rights Fund.
- Report to AusAid on Core Funding to be submitted in January 2011
- MORDI Programme funding for period January-December 2010 was received.
- Board of Directors Meeting was held for the months of October, November. The last meeting for 2010 was held on Tuesday 7 December at the Vunimaqo Deck.
- Annual Report Committee is compiling 2010 Annual Report, which should be ready by third week of January 2011.
- 2010 Staff Appraisal completed with bonuses awarded.
- Staff is mindful of the Health Promoting Policy, Child Policy, Gender Policy, and Environment Policy in work places.
- Support work for all programmes continues at a productive and fast pace! Work ranges from finance, admin, graphics, reporting, fundraising, publications, media releases to assisting the programmes in the field and facilitating in meetings.

COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA

- New Newsletter Layout launched
- Website optimisation continues

STAFF NEWS



PCDF welcomes Ms Alexandra Schiffmann, volunteer from 2Way Development (UK). Alex will be working at the Communications Department as she has a degree in Media and Communication and vast experience in PR, Marketing and Design. Alex will be with PCDF for 9 months and her contribution will boost work in the areas of publications, media releases and as a fundraiser. You will hear more stories from the communities and how PCDF projects have changed their lives. Alex will be covering these stories in future editions and Media releases.

MAJOR DONORS

PCDF could not complete any of its important work without the continuous support of local, regional, national and international donor organisations. Accessing support from some of these donors was only possible through the support and partnership of the Foundation for the Peoples of the South Pacific (FSPI), Counterpart International of USA, the Archdiocese of Suva and the Diocese of Polynesia. PCDF humbly salutes the following:

AUSAID - Australian Agency for International Development
NZAID— New Zealand Agency for International Development
IFAD - International Fund for Agricultural Development via FSPI
EED - Church Development Service (Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst)
Shangri-La's Fijian Resort
Canada Fund
Rotary Water for Life



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Merry Christmas!

The PCDF Team

Patron: Archbishop Petero Mataca

Trustees: Verona Lucas, Adi Laufitu Malani,
Susana Tuisawau

Board of Directors: Sashi Singh (Chairperson), Lionel Gibson, Dr Graham Roberts,
Monica Raghwan and Tevita Ravumaidama (Executive Director).

Tevita Ravumaidama, Feke Serau, Ferine Bano, Filipe Waqairagata, Iliapi Tuwai, Ilisapeci Whippy, Matelita Kedrayate, Setefano Nauqe, Seruwaia Hoyte, Tiri Naulivou, Talica Anderson, Ilisoni Tuinasavusavu, Watisoni Sokiveta, Susana Lewanituva, Sereana Rakai, Moala Volau, Marika Tuvasu, Solomone Boleinaivalu, Annie Madden, and Alexandra Schiffmann.

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Graphic Art - Filipe Waqairagata

Press/Ra KaKa Editor - Alexandra Schiffmann

MORDI - Iliapi Tuwai

Natural Resource Management - Matilita Kedrayate



Are you passionate about Community Development? Why not become a member of PCDF and support our important work with an annual membership fee of only \$20.00.

If you are interested in becoming a member, please write to **the Executive Director** at our Suva office.

Previous members are also encouraged to apply

The Management and Staff of PCDF wish you a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a PROPEROUS 2011!

Abbreviations:

ED – Executive Director, Tevita Ravumaidama **NRM** – Natural Resource Management

MORDI – Mainstreaming of Rural Development Innovation